

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 10377 021740Z

22

ACTION MC-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 EB-07 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00 PM-04

H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-07 SAJ-01 SAM-01 SAB-01 NEA-10 TRSE-00 FBIE-00

OMB-01 SY-05 JUSE-00 /097 W
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R 021734Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3348

INFO AMEMBASSY DOHA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 10377

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: EAIR, QA, UK

SUBJECT: QATARI ARMS SHIPMENT AT LONDON AIRPORT

1. BRITISH MEDIA HAVE STARTED REPORTING ON AN INCIDENT CONCERNING A SHIPMENT OF ARMS FOR QATAR TRANSITING LONDON AIRPORT. ACCORDING TO DESK OFFICER FOR QATAR IN FCO, THIS SO FAR APPEARS TO BE A TEMPEST IN A TEAPOT. AS HE UNDERSTANDS THE STORY, ON JUNE 7 A CRATE MARKED "BOOKS" WAS DROPPED WHEN BEING UNLOADED FROM A PANAM FLIGHT AND BROKE OPEN, DISCLOSING THE FACT THAT THE CONTENTS WERE SUB-MACHINE GUNS AND AMMUNITION, NOT "BOOKS". CRATE OR CRATES WERE MARKED AS BEING SENT BY EMBASSY OF QATAR IN WASHINGTON, D. C. AND ADDRESSED TO SHAIKH HAMAD AL-KHALIFA AL-THANI, COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF QATARI ARMY. THE LATTER HAS NOT CLAIMED THE SHIPMENT HERE. FCO NOTES THAT THIS SHIPMENT WOULD NOT NORMALLY HAVE ATTRACTED ATTENTION. HOWEVER, SINCE IT WAS BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE BRITISH CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY, THE LATTER MUST CARRY OUT AN INVESTIGATION. WE WILL REQUEST COPY OF THE INVESTIGATION.

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PAGE 02 LONDON 10377 021740Z

MILLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Authority: coburnhl
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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